



Agenda Item C.2
DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEM
Meeting Date: October 25, 2017

TO: Chair and Members of the Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: Vyto Adomaitis, Neighborhood Services & Public Safety Director

CONTACT: JoAnne Plummer, Parks & Recreation Manager

SUBJECT: Park Improvement Survey Results and Recommendations

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff requests the Parks and Recreation Commission (Commission) receive the staff report with the results from the playground survey for equipment replacement at Winchester I & II Parks, Andamar Park and Berkeley Park.

BACKGROUND:

In April of 2017, the Commission supported staff's recommendation to move forward with the park improvements at the following locations: Berkeley Park, Andamar Park, Winchester I Park and Winchester II Park. The remaining parks identified in the Recreation Needs Assessment (RNA) will be addressed through a separate process.

In preparation for a Request for Proposals (RFP) for playground replacements, it is necessary to specify equipment types for each project. City staff proceeded by conducting two different neighborhood outreach events in May to gather input from residents. The attendance was lower than desired, but there was substantial discussion with the information collected. In June, the Commission requested staff conduct additional outreach.

DISCUSSION:

In August, a survey was released in English and Spanish on the City's website. The link to the survey was sent directly to those in attendance at the outreach meetings, sent out through our Gov Delivery program, posted on social media sites including Facebook, Next Door, and also sent through the Goleta Union School District's (GUSD) Parent Square. Parent Square is the primary means of communication GUSD uses to disseminate information to their students and families. There was a total of 204 respondents.

The results revealed not only what residents want to see in their local parks, but also shared additional data regarding the type of use, how often they go to the park, what other parks they frequent and other relevant information. The overview of the survey results, per park location, is summarized in Attachment 1. The complete survey results are included in Attachment 2, without the responses to the street residence question posed.

The next step in the park improvement process is to use the information received to develop the bid package. Each park improvement will include, at a minimum, playground equipment upgrades and access paths from the sidewalk to the park amenities. Prior to installation, path location, equipment and color choices will be shared with the Commission. The focus for each park is listed below:

Berkeley Park

There is currently toddler equipment at this location that will not be removed. The improvements focus on replacing the swings with a climbing apparatus at a minimum. If there is sufficient space and budget, swings and/or slides will be considered. Incorporation of a shade structure in either the play area or seating area, will also be evaluated.

Andamar Park

The current swings and slide will be replaced with swings and a climbing apparatus for both toddlers and school age children. If there is sufficient space and budget, slides may be added.

Winchester I

The current play area will be relocated closer to the street to allow for disabled access while maintaining a relatively large green space. While 51% of the respondents requested structures for both age groups, the existing space does not allow for it. The focus will be on older school age children.

Winchester II

This park had the largest percentage of respondents that live immediately in the neighborhood at 83%—providing truly endemic feedback. The goal for this location will be to utilize the current play area with possible expansion to include climbers and swings for both age groups. While there are many trees that provide shade for spectators, the area will be evaluated for shade and seating near the play features. The expansion will not impede other recreation activities that are known to occur in this location.

FISCAL IMPACT:

In the City's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Budget, Project 9066 includes funding in the amount of \$825,000 that has been allocated for Miscellaneous Park Improvements for these four park locations.



Vyto Adomaitis,
Neighborhood Services
& Public Safety Director